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## **MEDIA ALERT:**

# **2013 ROVING EYE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL CLOSES WITH SPEAKER SERIES ON THE JEWISH EXPERIENCE AND AWARD-WINNING PROGRAM OF INTERNATIONAL SHORTS**

**WHAT:** The 8th Annual **Roving Eye International Film Festival**

**WHEN:** April 28, 2013, starting at 2:00 p.m.

**WHERE:** Global Heritage Hall, Room 01, **Roger Williams University**, 1 Old Ferry Road, Bristol, RI

**WHO:** FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival (RIIFF) and Roger Williams University (RWU)

**HOW MUCH:** *This is a Free Event*

**WHY:** To celebrate the art and craft of international filmmaking.

From cutting-edge documentaries to narrative films whose stories have been ripped from the headlines, the eighth annual **Roving Eye International Film Festival** is a portal for discovery to film-lovers across the region. The popular and acclaimed event, celebrating global cinema and artists, completes its 2013 programming on **April 28th**, with a powerful afternoon of lecture and film screenings called "**FLIGHT FROM THE REICH: PUBLIC ACTIONS, PRIVATE LIVES**," featuring Professor **Debórah Dwork**, Rose Professor of Holocaust History and Director of the Strassler Family Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Clark University.

The program begins at 2:00 p.m. and addresses a key human rights concern: would you do and where would you go if your country declared you were a non-citizen, a non-human?

The Jews under Hitler's Third Reich lived out the answers to these questions when he came to power in Germany during 1933. The process of fleeing Europe, of becoming a refugee, was complicated, happenstance, personal, and dangerous. It was, as our speaker, has explained "*centrifugal*," fleeing the center.

Professor Dwork will share stories of some who sought to flee the Reich and discuss the role their experiences play in Holocaust history. She is one of the leading experts on the Holocaust. Her research into the death camp Auschwitz with her colleague, Robert Jan van Pelt, has changed significantly how historians are viewing the concentration camp experience within Holocaust history. Among her many publications, Professor Dwork is the co-author with van Pelt of *Auschwitz, Holocaust: A History, and Flight From the Reich: Refugee Jews, 1933-1946*.

Following the lecture, at 4:00 p.m., the Festival will present a program of short films that complement the theme of Private Lives, Public Actions."

**Snovi** | Reshad Kulenovich | 14 min. Bosnia, 2012

Suddenly a moment from the past, a shard of memory can surge, overwhelming the senses. Crystal snowflakes land precariously on pale birch trees, civilians shudder from the cold, soldiers in heavy jackets give orders.

**Vergeben ≠ Vergessen** | Nicolas Greinacher | 10 min. Switzerland, 2012

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In 1942, the Swiss Department of Justice and Police released a new regulation, stating that Jews were no longer considered political refugees. It is during this state of political affairs that Mrs Rosenthal tries to escape from the Nazis.

**WORLD PREMIERE**

***The Filmmaker will be in attendance.***

**Heil Emil** | Sebastian Kilinski | 18 min. Germany, 2012

Heil Emil is about a German family whose son was born with Down Syndrome. His mother, Helena, is aware of the euthanasia program and single-handedly stages a missing person case to keep her son hidden in the attic.

**GREAT** | Andreas Henn | 23 min. Germany, 2013

Did the Nazis ever see Charlie Chaplin's "The Great Dictator?" May 10th, 1942: a relatively minor event on the brink of world history, which, had it not really happened, would certainly be worth of being dreamt up. All of Yugoslavia is occupied by Nazi-Germany. Nikola, a young Serbian projectionist, has had more than enough. Instead of emulating his violent Partisan friends, Nikola decides to teach the Germans a lesson all by himself. His weapon of choice: 'The Great Dictator' by Charlie Chaplin. His target: a cinema for German soldiers right in the heart of Serbia. What happens there, Nikola couldn't possibly have imagined in his wildest dreams. "A day without laughter is a day wasted." (Charlie Chaplin). Based on a true story.

**On the Road to Tel Aviv** | Khen Shalem | 18 min. Israel, 2008

A young Israeli finds himself in a tricky situation when a suspicious-looking Arab woman enters the same taxi as his fiancée. As he tries to get his fiancée out without creating a scene, panic ensues and he must right the situation, as the realities of war, terror, and enemies are exposed

The **Roving Eye International Film Festival** is presented through a collaboration between **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival** (RIIFF) and **Roger Williams University** (RWU). More than 50 international films will be showcased, many United States premieres. *All screenings are free to the general public* and will take place on the campus of Roger Williams University in Bristol, R.I. at the Global Heritage Hall. The Festival's slogan for 2013 has been **"You Know You Want to Look."**

The **2013 Roving Eye International Film Festival** is sponsored by *The RI Film & the Television Office; Flickers; the Edwin S. Soforenko Foundation; Roger Williams University Office of the Provost; the Office of the Dean of Arts and Sciences; the Department of Communications; Hillel; and the Spiritual Life Program.*

To see a listing of this year's programming and to learn more about the Roving Eye International Film Festival, go to: <http://www.film-festival.org/RovingEye.php>. For more information about films, dates, and venues for Festival, please call 401-861-4445, email: [info@film-festival.org](mailto:info@film-festival.org)

**ABOUT ROGER WILLIAMS UNIVERSITY:**

Roger Williams University is ranked by U.S. News & World Report as eighth among comprehensive colleges in the north. Roger Williams offers undergraduate and graduate programs in the arts and sciences, architecture, business, construction management, education, engineering, historic preservation, justice studies, legal studies, visual arts studies and law. For more information, go to: [www.rwu.edu](http://www.rwu.edu).

**ABOUT FLICKERS: RHODE ISLAND INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL:**

The **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival** (RIIFF) has secured its place in the global community as the portal for the best in international independent cinema, earning the respect of domestic and foreign filmmakers, filmgoers and trend watchers. This confluence of art and commerce brought together world-class celebrities, award-winning filmmakers, new talent and audience members in record numbers last year. Ranked as one of the top-12 festivals in the United States, RIIFF is one of 75 festivals worldwide that is a qualifying festival for the Academy Awards through its partnership with the **Academy of Motion Pictures Arts & Sciences**.

For more information about the **FLICKERS: Rhode Island International Film Festival**, running Aug. 6-11, 2013 at **The Vets** (formerly Veterans Memorial Auditorium), please visit [www.RIFilmFest.org](http://www.RIFilmFest.org) or call 401.861.4445.